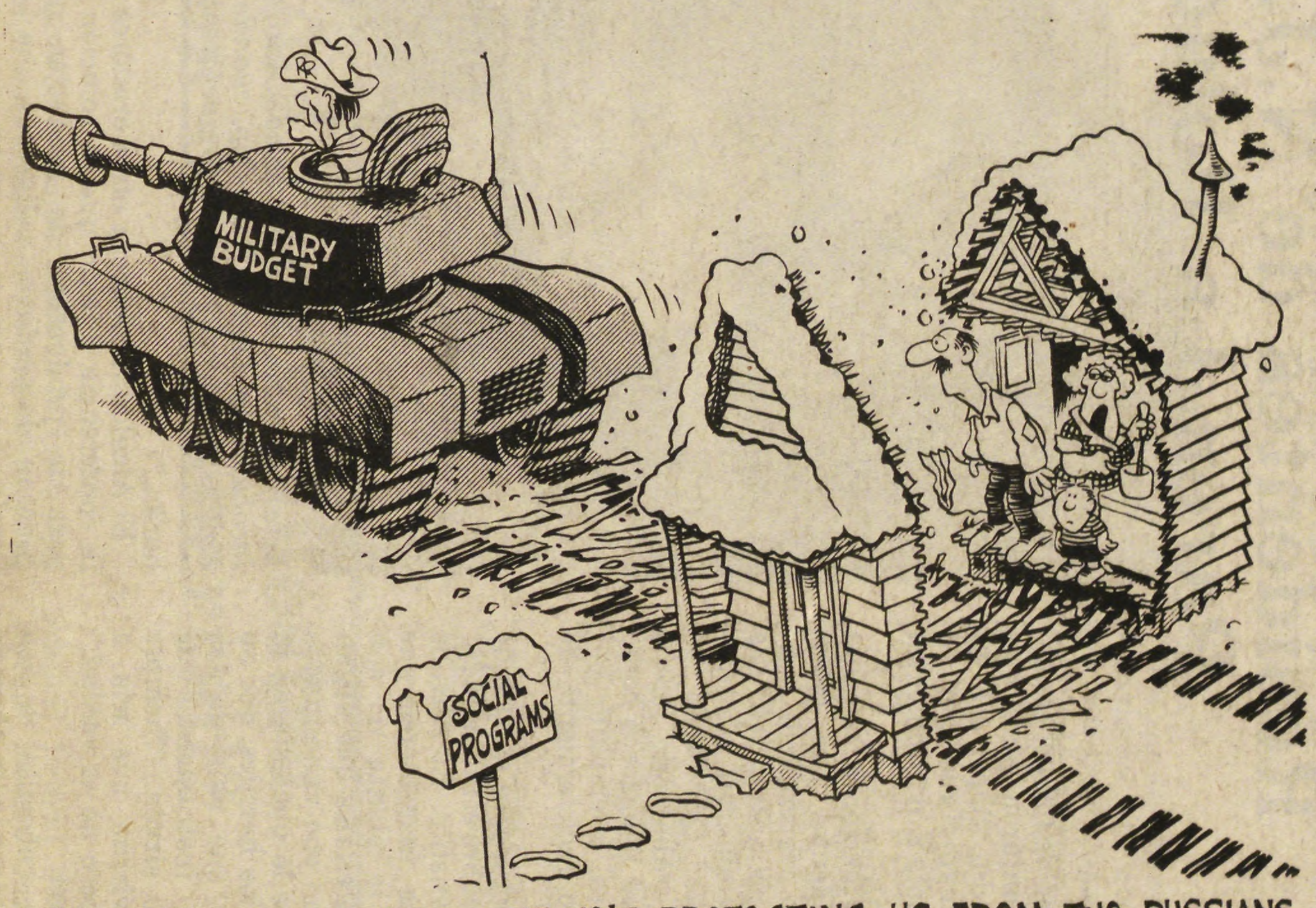
FREE GRATIS

TRI-LINGUAL

IRONBOUND VOICES

Vol. 9 No. 6 Oct./Nov. 1986



"ANSWER ME ONE THING— IF HE'S PROTECTING US FROM THE RUSSIANS, WHO'S PROTECTING US FROM HIM?"

Those Who Know Say No Incinerator

A special workshop with 3 national experts on recycling was held at St. Benedict's Church on October 7.

All 3 of the panel members agreed that garbage incinerators should **not** be built, and that recycling was a very realistic and economical way to get rid of our garbage.

Mark Lohbouer, one of the speakers, is a city councilman from Pennsauken, N.J., who started a recycling program there. Mr. Lohbouer said that those who want to build a garbage incinerator in Pennsauken do not want recycling, because the garbage incinerator would then have less garbage to burn. Some local officials who want to build the garbage incinerator predicted that Mr. Lohbouer's recycling program would never work, that people would not participate, and that the whole thing would fail.

But Mr. Lohbouer said that within the second week, people were enthusiastically participating. People throw their cans and bottles into a special can which is placed on the curb. The cans are collected by city trucks and the material is taken to a county recycling center, where the materials are separated, and eventually resold.

"In our town we have a law making it mandatory to recycle these cans and bottles, but we've never had to enforce the law, because everyone is recycling," said Mr. Lohbouer. "We are going to continue to increase the amount we recycle. The more we recycle, the less reason for any garbage incinerator to be built.

Pennsauken has 35-40,000 residents, and they are recycling 15% of their garbage - after only 6 months!

"The great lie we are being told is that there is some kind of limit to how much can be recycled," said Mr. Lohbouer.

The panelists said that many existing recycling organizations say things like "only 25% of our garbage can be recycled" because they are receiving grants from large companies which want to build garbage incinerators.



Recycling is cheaper and safer than garbage incinerators. That's what 3 national experts said at a workshop sponsored by the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste. In the photo, Mark Lohbouer, city councilman from Pennsauken, tells June Kruszewski - left - and Mae Cox - right - about the recycling program he started.

Steve Romalewski, from the New York Public Interest Research Group, said, "Incineration is no solution. It produces ahses which can be as much as 40% of the garbage. It **does not** end landfills. The ashes which can be as much as 40% of the garbage. It **does not** end landfills. The ashes are covered with dioxin and other

Mr. Romalewski said New York Public Interest Research Group was urging that **real** recycling programs be developed and that no incinerators be built for 5 years.

Food scraps, leaves, grass and other organic materials can be made into compost to use to enrich the soil.

Neil Seldman, from the Institute for Local Self Reliance in Washington D.C., pointed out that recycling will cost half as much as an incinerator, without causing the problems to our health. He said recycling would employ many more people than an incinerator. In a study Mr. Seldman did for Philadelphia, he projected that 300 jobs would be created by recycling, compared to 50 or less for an incinerator.

"Our elected officials keep telling us that there is no alternative to a garbage incinerator," said Arnold Cohen, from the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste**. "But we can see by what we've heard tonight that they are not telling the truth."

Expert Says Incinerators Are Not The Answer

Neil Seldman is director of the Institute for Local Self Reliance in Washington D.C. Mr. Seldman is an expert on recycling who spoke at a workshop on recycling Oct. 7 sponsored by the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste and the Grass Roots Environmental Organization. Here are some of Mr. Seldman's comments:

"It's true that it's now costing more to put garbage in landfills, but burning it is not the answer. Incineration costs **even more**. In addition, the ash must be put into a landfill that can accept hazardous wastes. This type of landfill costs much more than an ordinary one, because the ash is much more dangerous than ordinary garbage."

"Garbage disposal used to be cheap. But since they built an incinerator in Westchester County in New York, it now costs as much as their fire and police departments." In Newark, it will cost more than**$100 per ton** to burn the garbage. Composting and recycling plants can be built that will cost less than half as much.

"When a city decides to build a garbage incinerator, it is choosing an outdated method, it's really going backwards."

"It's really funny. While government officials in the United States are rushing to build garbage incinerators that are copies of the ones in Europe, people in Europe are trying to find alternatives to incineration. Sweden has imposed a moratorium on the construction of new garbage incinerators."

"You may hear some official tell you that there is no alternative to burning garbage. **It's not true**. In Europe they are recycling up to 70% of their garbage. We could do the same thing here and it would cost less. Other officials may tell you that we must burn the garbage now, and we can recycle sometime in the future. Well, the problem is that the future never seems to come if you build a garbage incinerator, because when they get built the government passes a law saying all the garbage must go to the incinerator. So, as long as the incinerator stands, recycling anything more than a small amount will be prevented."

FREE

Blood Pressure Tests

Tues. Nov. 18

12:30 - 2:30 PM

Ironbound Information Center
95 Fleming Ave., Newark
589-4668

Free

FLU SHOTS

Wed. Nov. 12

9:30 - 11:30

Ironbound Information Center
95 Fleming Ave., Newark
589-4668

Greenpeace Acts For A Safe & Peaceful World

"Your fight to stop the garbage incinerator is part of the same fight ***Greenpeace*** is involved in all over the world - to try to make this a safe and peaceful world. I hope your fight is successful. We believe in action. If somebody is doing something to threaten us, then we try to do something to stop them."

Ken Alboum, from ***Greenpeace***, spoke about the group's work at Our Lady of Fatima Church on Sunday, Sept. 21. The talk was sponsored by the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste.** ***Greenlpeace*** is an international environmental organization with over 1 and 1/2 million members in countries all over the world.

People sometimes think that ***Greenpeace*** is only involved in saving the whales and seals which were in danger of becoming extinct because of uncontrolled hunting. ***Greenpeace*** has received a lot of publicity for their work in saving these animals. They succeeded in blocking the hunts and getting them outlawed so the animals are no longer in danger. But ***Greenpeace*** is also involved in other issues which are closer to home for many people.

Greenpeace is fighting against toxic waste in communities all around the world. ***Greenpeace*** members believe that instead of arguing about where to dump toxic wastes, the toxic wastes should not be produced in the first place. ***Greenpeace*** has taken dramatic action against some of the large chemical companies which are draining their hazardous chemicals into lakes, rivers, and the ocean. They recently plugged Ciba-Geigy's pipes in New Jersey to try to stop them from dumping their chemicals into the ocean at Jersey shore. One ***Greenpeace*** member climbed the tallest smokestack in the United States, which was spewing pollution out into the air. After he got to the top and hung a message against the company, he parachuted down to land. Often, what ***Greenpeace*** members do brings media and public attention to a problem, which helps get action to solve it.

Greenpeace grew concerned about thousands of barrels of radioactive waste being dumped into the ocean. The radioactive waste is deadly. It remains radioactive for thousands of years. Once the barrels disintegrate, the radioactive chemicals will be released into the ocean. They will be absorbed by fish, which we will then eat, and the level of radioactivity in our bodies will increase. ***Greenpeace*** used small boats to block ships from dropping the barrels into the sea. Because of their action, the London Dumping Treaty outlawed the dumping of radioactive materials into the ocean.

Another source of radioactivity in the world is nuclear bombs. 1600 nuclear bombs have been exploded in tests by many countries throughout the world. 800 tests have been conducted by the United States. ***Greenpeace*** has blocked tests on land in this country, and on sea in other parts of the world.

The ***Greenpeace*** ship, ***Rainbow Warrior*** was about to block a French nuclear test when it was destroyed as it stood at a dock in New Zealand. French agents planted bombs on the ship. The ***Rainbow Warrior*** had just returned from helping hundreds of families move off the Marshall Islands. The Marshall Islands were contaminated because of the nuclear tests which took place there over many years. The people have a high rate of birth defects, leukemia, and an extremely short life expectancy due to the radioactivity from the nuclear explosions. For years they had requested assistance in moving to other islands, which are not contaminated. The ***Rainbow Warrior*** helped them move, and ***Greenpeace*** was recently nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize because of this work.

When the ***Rainbow Warrior*** was bombed, a Portuguese photographer, Fernando Perreira, was killed. At the program on Sept. 21, Father Joseph Bejgrowicz from St. Benedict's Church, said, "Fernando Pereira was a person concerned about the quality of life on this planet. The best way for us to remember him is for us to believe as he did and to show our concern through our action."

"We have to let people know that we are taking a position on things like toxic waste and the garbage incinerator, and that we will not be pushed around and dumped on. We must make our political leaders responsible to us. When we see wrong things happening we can't look the other way. We have to speak out and ask others to join with us. Fernando Pereira put his life on the line. We have to put our time and effort on the line."

At the end of the program, Mr. Alboum sang a song he wrote about the ***Rainbow Warrior***. The words to the chorus of the song were "You can't sink a rainbow!" Mr. Alboum said that although a man had been killed in the ***Greenpeace*** effort, it did not scare them into stopping, but only made them more determined to fight for a safe and peaceful world.

Jackson St. Bridge Repairs Behind Schedule

The Jackson Street Bridge, which was supposed to reopen in 1988, will not be reopened until 1989, according to the state's design engineering department.

The repair work was supposed to have begun in summer of 1985, according to the Star Ledger.

But according to the state, the design for the bridge will not be finished until February 1987, and the actual construction work will begin the following summer and take 2 years.

The bridge closing has caused hardship for many Ironbound and Harrison residents who normally used it to get to work.

"The bridges which bring people in from the suburbs to work in Newark or to go to Penn Station have been fixed, but the Jackson St. Bridge, which primarily serves people who live here, is still closed," said one Ironbound resident. "The people who live in Newark get the short end of the stick all the time."

"The state of New Jersey had a $240 million surplus for 1986," said another resident. "But they won't spend it for a bridge that should have been fixed up 20 years ago."

"State and county officials are hard at work to give us a garbage incinerator which will pollute this neighborhood and cause us health problems," said another resident. "But they can't fix a bridge we need to go to work. It shows how little they really care about the people who live here."

In Memory of Frank Pleva

Frank Pleva, who died Sept. 29, was a person who worked long and hard to make Ironbound a better place to live.

Mr. Pleva was an active member of the Airplane Committee working to get some relief from the noise and pollution caused by low flying airplanes, and the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste, working to protect our neighborhood from toxic chemicals.

Mr. Pleva did what had to be done to get action - organized demonstrations, met with Airport officials, called in complaints, and even had a device installed to monitor the airplanes in his own back yard.

Mr. Pleva never gave up. He encouraged others to get involved. He spoke at many community meetings in Ironbound, and even some in the South Ward to try to unify citizens who were experiencing the same problems to fight them together. Mr. Pleva went to and testified at many public meetings and hearings, representing the people who were suffering in the neighborhoods. He was never intimidated by the government or corporate officials. He knew when they were lying - and he wasn't afraid to tell them so.

Mr. Pleva was a person who was there whenver he was needed, someone we could all count on. His courage, his determination, his refusal to give up were inspirations to those of us who had the privilege to know him and work with him.

Mr. Pleva always said that he was fighting not for his benefit, but to protect the children of our neighborhood. The best testimonial we can give Frank Pleva is to continue to work to protect our neighborhood the way he did.

NJ Residents Say Stop Polluting!

Nearly 100 people from all over the state of New Jersey gathered for a conference Sept. 27 in Swedesboro, N.J., sponsored by the ***Grass Roots Environmental Organization (GREO).***

In workshops and talks throughout the day, people who are fighting to clean up toxic wastes, or to prevent them from coming into their communities, exchanged information and experiences. They agreed to continue to work together to stop dangerous plans like garbage incinerators, and push for real solutions like recycling.

In a workshop on incinerators, Mayor Frank Iacobucci talked about the Rollins incinerator in Logan Township. Mayor Iacobucci said that the inspectors who come to the plant are not qualified, that material coming in to be burned is not tested to make sure that what is listed is really in the barrels, that there is no testing of what comes out of the smokestacks, and that the monitoring instruments at Rollins do not work. "We always felt that the government was going to help us, to protect us, but it's not true," Mayor Iacobucci said.

Susan Andrews, a leader in the citizen fight to clean up pollution from Rollins, showed photographs of the explosion there that killed 7 people. "You can't believe anything government officials are telling you," she said. "You can't believe what they say about how much they care about your health, or about how safe the incinerator will be. Half of what they tell you is a lie. And the other half is wishful thinking. If they can't even monitor the Rollins incinerator now, how will they be able to monitor these incinerators they are proposing for everywhere else in the state? They won't do it."

Mayor Iacobucci and other speakers at the conference said the solution is to stop producing the products which generate hazardous wastes that are harmful to people.

In the workshop on health effects of toxic chemicals, Dr. Ted Flynn from the University of Medicine and Dentistry said that chemicals which damage genetic cells (called DNA) in our bodies should not be allowed to get into peoples' systems. "It is just common sense that if we know these chemicals cause cancer and damage DNA, we do not take chances by exposing people to them," Dr. Flynn said. He also said that studies have been done which show that people who live in areas with a great deal of pollution have higher rates of cancer and birth defects, and miscarriages, but that children are being born who are being damaged by chemicals the mother is exposed to. Dr. Flynn talked about lead in the environment, and how exposure to tiny amounts causes damage to the nerves, which results in decreased attention spans and other learning problems in children.

The group which hosted the conference, **No Dice**, is fighting a plan to build a hazardous waste storage plant in their area.

That evening more than 100 people attended a dinner and heard Jerry McKenna, who is head of the New York State Special Committee on Organized Crime, speak about the connection between organized crime and toxic waste.

"We are going to continue to work together to make state officials realize that we will not let the chemical companies continue to endanger us, our homes, and our children," said Madelyn Hoffman, from ***GREO***. "We will be meeting again, and we will be planning some actions to make our voices heard loud and clear."



This photograph shows Susan Andrews - second from left - and Mayor Frank Iacobucci, from Logan Township, as they share horror stories about the problems at the Rollins incinerator with others at the GREO conference.

A Scientist Helps Our Fight Against Garbage Incinerators

There are a few honest scientists who are willing to speak out about garbage incinerators and how they threaten our health. One of these is **Dr. Paul Connett**, a Professor of Chemistry at St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York.

Doctor Connett has been very helpful to the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste** in the fight to stop the garbage incinerator. Dr. Connett has come to Newark several times to speak about the dangers of garbage incinerators. Dr. Connett has spoken at press conferences here. He has given information to the ICATW lawyers for the legal case against the garbage incinerator. He has even made a videotape about Ironbound which will be shown to other citizens groups all around the country who are fighting garbage incinerators.

Dr. Connett has formed a National Coalition To Stop Mass Burning (Garbage Incinerators). He collects information about garbage incineration from all over the country and produces a newsletter. The newsletter - 200 pages! - is full of information about groups fighting garbage incinerators, the alternatives to garbage incineration, and the dangers of incineration. The newsletter is available by writing Dr. Connett, 82 Judson, Canton, N.Y., 13617. The cost is $15, but it is worth every penny.

Dr. Connett recently returned from Japan, where he delivered a paper at the International Conference on dioxin. Dr. Connett's paper was about dioxin contamination entering our food supply, and then contaminating us.

Dr. Connett is a scientist who is **not** employed by the government or the chemical companies or corporations. He is an independent scientist who is not afraid to speak out against garbage incinerators. He uses his knowledge to help community groups all over the country who are fighting to stop the pollution from garbage incinerators.

Dr. Connett was honored by the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste at the Dinner Dance on October 18, for all his help to our community.

8th Annual

Ecumenical Service

Sunday, Nov. 9, 3:00 PM
Trinity Reformed Church
483 Ferry St.

sponsored by the:
Ironbound Ecumenical Association

Annual

Christmas Bazaar

Nov. 14 6-10 PM
Nov. 15
2-9 PM
Holy Trinity Hall
207 Adams St.

sponsored by:
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church
For information call 589-2090.

Who Benefits From Billions For The Military?

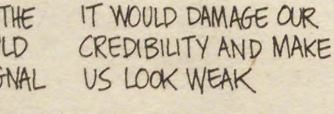
Each year, the federal government is spending billions of our tax dollars on the military. Much of that money goes to about 100 huge corporations with military contracts. These corporations got ***$105 billion*** in new contracts in 1985. Twenty-eight of the companies got more than a billion dollars each.

Of every federal tax dollar, 62 cents goes to the military. The proportion of our gross national product that is spent on the military is twice as high as Germany's and seven times as high as Japan's. This money could have been spent to improve health care, give better pensions to senior citizens, create jobs, or create a better educational system for our children.

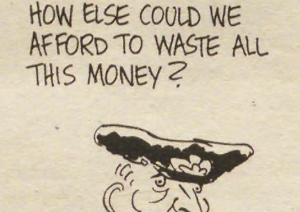
One of the reasons it was spent on the military is because of the large number of military officers who leave the armed forces each year to take jobs in the defense industry. These same people help to arrange for bigger contracts for the companies they now work for. Each year, they try to get the government to spend more on the military so they can get more for their companies. During the last 6 years they have gotten military spending doubled.

In 1961, President Eisenhower tried to warn the American people about the "military-industrial complex." This was the phrase he used to describe the army officers and the corporations working together to increase the amount of money spent on defense contracts. He also warned that they would become more and more powerful.







Today, these corporations get their billion dollar contracts without any competition 96% of the time. They make much higher profits on their defense contracts. (In 1984 the average rate of profit for the 10 largest defense contractors was twice as high as the average for non-military companies). They rarely pay any taxes. From 1981-84, the nation's top defense contractors had profits of **$27 billion** but paid an average tax rate of only **6.3% - less than the average tax rate paid by working people.**

These corporations also paid their top management huge salaries. Most paid their corporation presidents more than **$1 million** in 1985. One of them, paid almost $4 million!

At the same time that they are making so much money, many of these corporations are stealing even more. Forty-five of the top 100 military contractors are under investigation for criminal activities. The government has paid hundreds of dollars for simple tools and parts that normally cost a few dollars!

U.S. Government Breaks The Law & Ignores The Judge

by Nancy Zak

When someone is caught committing a crime, the court decides if the person is guilty and what penalty they should get.

But what if the criminal ignores the court and just goes on breaking the laws?

That is what is happening with the United States and the World Court. On June 17, the World Court ruled by a vote of 14 to 3 that the United State shas violated international law in the way it has treated Nicaragua.

The Court ruled that the United States was violating international law by "training, arming, equipping, financing and supplying the contra forces."

It found that the United States had itself attacked Nicaraguan oil plants and shipping ports in 1983 and 1984 - with military from the United States, not the contras.

The Court said that the United States had broken international law by flying over Nicaraguan territory and by planting mines in the harbors of Nicaragua to blow up ships that tried to dock there.

The Court also condemned the United States for distributing a CIA manual about ways to torture and kill people, saying it "encouraged acts contrary to the general principles of humanitarian law." Even the American judge who is a member of the World Court agreed with this point.

The World Court ordered the United States to stop its aid to the contras and to pay damages to Nicaragua for the destruction of life and property caused by the U.S. and contra attacks.

The World Court is made up of judges from the United States, England, France, India, Poland, Algeria, Nigeria, Italy, Senegal, Brazil, China, Japan and Norway.

Because the United States did not like the World Court ruling, they walked out on their own trial.

President Reagan has chosen to ignore the World Court and do whatever he wants to do in Nicaragua. In addition to ignoring the World Court, the U.S. Congress just voted to give the contras $100 million in military aid. So instead of receiving a penalty for breaking the law, Reagan and the contras are getting a reward!

One week after the new money was voted, 31 Nicaraguan civilians were killed when a land mine placed by the contras exploded. This is an example of how our tax dollars are being used in Nicaragua.

Most of the people in the United States are against giving the contras any military aid. 62% of the people in this country are against helping the contras. Obviously a government that ignores the World Court can also ignore what its own people want.

Help Get Decent Housing For All People

"All people have a right to safe, decent, and affordable housing. We believe that in view of the extreme housing crisis currently existing in New Jersey, our elected officials should take immediate steps to ensure this right."

These words are the beginning of an important petition being circulated all across New Jersey by ***Right To Housing. Right To Housing*** is a coalition of groups and individuals from all around New Jerey who are working to get decent housing for all people - not just the rich.

The petition asks state officials to build housing that is affordable for poor and working people, and to fix up buildings that need repairs so that people can continue to live in them. It also asks for a rent subsidy for those people who cannot afford the rents that are being asked for now. The petition also calls for more temporary shelters until permanent housing is available for all people.

Right To Housing plans to go to Trenton in the fall with hundreds of thousands of names on their petition to show that people all around New Jersey - whether they live in the city or the suburbs - want something done about the housing crisis. The group needs your help to circulate the petitions to your family, your friends, and your church or school meetings in the next few months.

You can pick up petitions at the Ironbound Community Information Center, 95 Fleming Ave., or call and they can be sent to you.

Throwing Our Tax $$$ Away

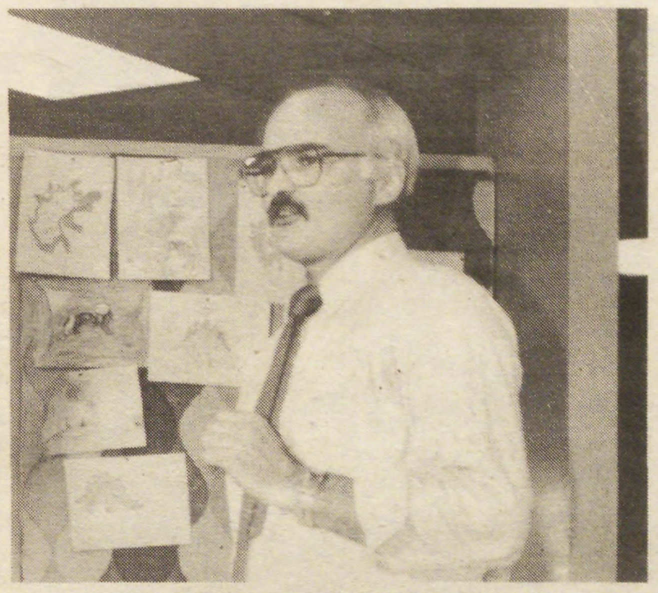
"So much money has been given to what is called **national defense** that they don't know what to do with it. It is a waste of money which we desperately need in our neighborhoods for things like schools, housing and jobs."

The speaker was Tom Fox, from the National Training and Information Center in Chicago. Mr. Fox gave a special workshop on October 9, sponsored by the **Ironbound Peace Education Project.**

Mr. Fox has spent a lot of time studying the federal budget and how our tax money is being wasted.

"The whole idea of a deficit is a lie," Mr. Fox said. "The politicians in Washington are making a choice to let big corporations and the Pentagon get away with murder. The big corporations are getting tax breaks so they don't pay taxes. In some cases the government even pays them a rebate! At the same time the Pentagon is wasting billions of dollars through fraud. If you took all that money and added it together, there would be no deficit."

"Instead of taking money from these sources, the government is trying to take it away from us and the programs we need to survive and keep our neighborhoods liveable. People have got to refuse to go along with the lie and demand that the corporations pay their full share, and that the Pentagon budget be cut."



Tom Fox spoke about the millions of tax dollars lost when big corporations pay little or no taxes, or when the military wastes millions of dollars each year.

Mr. Fox shared some examples of expenses one company connected with the Pentagon called 'national defense' expenses. Taxpayers paid **$43,000** for members of this company to hold a meeting at an expensive vacation resort, **$9100** for gift hats with emblems, **$35,558** for a Dinner Dance, and **$16,178** for gift tie tacs.

As far as the corporations, Mr. Fox passed out a list of many big companies, who are making billions of dollars of profits, who paid ***no taxes***. Some of them even got money back. For example, Dow Chemical Company, which made a profit of $972 million but they did not pay taxes. Instead they got a rebate, or a tax credit for the next year.

Members of community organizations, churches, teachers, and neighborhood residents attended the workshop and will be sharing the information with others.

Ironbound Peace Eduation Project is made up of people who live and work in Ironbound who want to continue the discussion of peace issues. The group will be running a ***Peace Poster Contest*** in the schools this fall. For more information, call 344-7210.

Incinerators Creating Disaster Around The U.S.

Garbage incinerators which are operating in a few places in the United States are having serious problems. Pollution, equipment breakdowns, and higher and higher costs are some of the main things going wrong with incinerators. Essex County officials are ignoring the evidence that these incinerators don't work.

In Niagara Falls, even the company that built the incinerator is saying it is a disaster. According to the company's statement to the NY Legislative Commission on Solid Waste Management in February 1985:

"Our plant was originally designed to cost 65 million dollars. We now have over 100 million dollars invested in hardware... We have lost many millions of dollars in this resource recovery plant."

In Saugus, Massachusetts, the incinerator is proving that it is for the birds! Seagulls have gathered to feast on the Garbage that was left standing outside when the boiler broke. In spite of the problem, the incinerator company continued to accept daily truckloads of garbage and the small became unbearable. "I had company in from Chicago, and I was embarrassed due to the awful odor in the air," said one woman who lives nearby. "I If this happened in Ironbound, it could result in an airplane crash.

There have been so many problems with the incinerator in Saugus, that the Saugus Board of Health has asked the state to do health tests of people in the community to see what negative health effects the incinerator is having.

The landfill where the ash from the incinerator is being dumped is leaking heavy metals into the water supply.

"Saugus has been the home of one of these garbage incinerators for just over a decade. In that time, soot, ash, foul smelling air and never-ending convoys of heavy trucks have continued to plague our town," wrote one resident in a letter to the Boston newspaper.

"How do you shut down a plant like this **after it has been built?**" said another woman. "It's very very difficult."

In Rome, New York, the garbage incinerator had to have all four of its smokestacks replaced within one year, costing $124,000. The smokestacks were eaten away by acid gases from burning garbage. The Public Works Commissioner said many of the equipment problems at the incinerator were caused by a lack of knowledge about the properties of the ash from the burning garbage. The plant had an ash loader - a piece of equipment to move the ash around at the landfill and pack it down. But the loader is so heavy it sinks into the ashes so it cannot be used.

Residents near the incinerator in Windham, Connecticut organized a petition against the incinerator complaining about the noise, smell, rats, and ash getting everywhere, and that people with no previous history of disease are having breathing problems like bronchitis. The incinerator there is not using the devices which are supposed to clean the air. They are using the "dump" smokestacks which means that toxic chemicals and dioxin are being released right into the air.

Last year in **Auburn, Maine**, the incinerator lost over **one million dollars**. A consultant who was called in to investigate the problem said, "Your facility is dying. In about a year, that facility is going to become technically and economically extinct." Meanwhile the town of Auburn is trying to raise $10 million to try to keep the incinerator going.The incinerator in Auburn is very small. How much more money will taxpayers in Essex County have to pay for a much larger incinerator?

Residents near another incinerator in **Tuscaloosa, Alabama**, saw black smoke spewing from the incinerator's stack. They organized a petition drive which was signed by 300 people living near the incinerator. The smoke was not the only problem. There was an explosion at the plant. There have been incidents of the incinerator burning things it is not authorized bo burn and burning garbage without using the pollution control devices the plant is supposed to use. The equipment continues to wear out, and the taxpayers are continuing to foot increasing bills to pay for new work on the equipment or plant itself. Residents have nicknamed the incinerator the "Tuscaloosa Turkey."

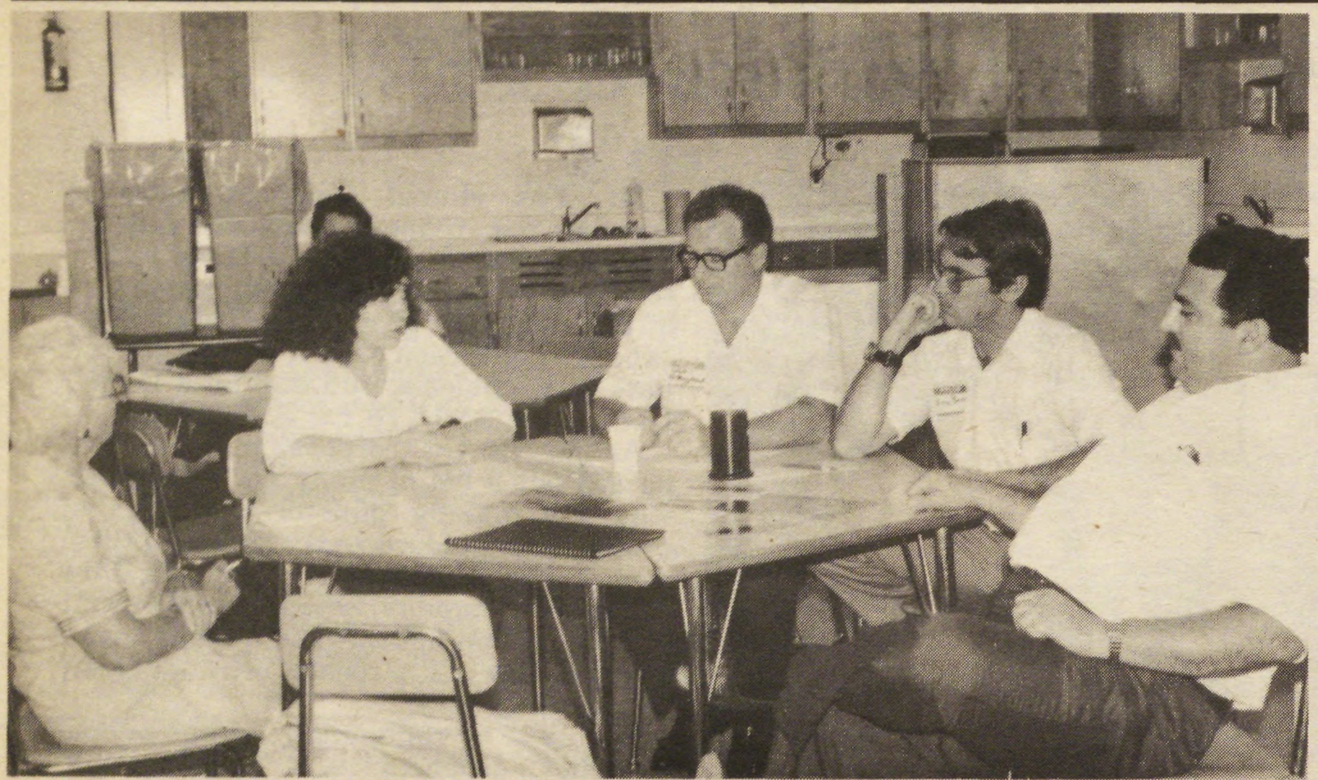
Dade County residents who live near an incinerator in Florida say that dust from the incinerator there coated cars and left a scum on swimming pools. They say the plant has been giving off bad smells, and putting particles into the air that make it difficult to breath. Neighbors have complained that the incinerator is causing persistent coughs and other ailments. The incinerator operators have refused to let government officials measure the amount of poisonous dioxin coming out of the smokestack.

The operator of that incinerator told a newspaper reporter, "One thing with resource recovery you should make sure the public is aware **that you don't get rid of landfills.**"

Fourteen other incinerators which were investigated by the same reporter show that nearly all of them had equipment failures starting during their first six months of operation. When the equipment breaks, the garbage piles up, and neighbors complain about terrible smells. When the equipment works, dioxin, and heavy metals go into the air people breathe, and the ash that is left is hazaroude - contaminated with cancer-causing chemicals.

"I don't understand how Essex County officials can continue to try to put an incinerator in Ironbound when they have the facts about the terrible problems a the garbage incinerators that are already operating around the country," said Arnold Cohen from the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste.** "It is a completely irresponsible thing to do."





Nesta foto vimos Susan Andrews - 2 da esquina - e o Mayor Frank Iacobucci da cidade Logan que contaram factos horriveis sobre o incinerador Rollins a toods os presentes na conferencia da GREO em Swedesboro.

Residentes de N.J. Dizem Não à Poluição

Cerca de 100 pessoas de todos os cantos do estado de New Jersey juntaram-se numa conferencia no dia 27 de Setembro na cidade de Swedesboro, N.J.. Conferencia essa oranizada por Grass Roots Environmental Organization (GREO).

Em várias sessões e conversas durante o dia várias pessoas que estão envolvidas em lutas contra a poluição, ou em qualquer outra forma de evitar que residuos toxicos venham para as nossas comunidades, as pessoas tracaram impressões e experiencias. Concordaram em continuar a trabalhar juntos para impedirem a construção de projectos perigosos, tais como incineradores de lixo, e defenderem soluções reais e mais saudáveis tais como reciclagem.

Numa das discussões precisamente sobre incineradores do lixo o Mayor Frank Iacobucci falou sobre o incinerador Rollins na vila de Logan. O Mayor Iacobucci disse que os inspectores que vieram como monitores da planta não eram qualificados, o material que vem para ser queimado nunca é examinado antes, para se certificarem de que o que vem dentro dos barris é o que está declarado. Não há qualquer tipo de teste ao fumo que sai pela chaminé. A maior parte do tempo o equipamento de segurança não trabalha. "Pensámos sempre que o governo nos iria ajudar e proteger-nos, mas chegámos à conclusão que não é verdade," disse o Mayor Iacobucci.

A Sra. Susan Andrews, lider do grupo de cidadãos empenhados no control ad poluição de Rollins, mostrou fotografias da explosão que vitimou 7 pessoas. "Não se pode acreditar naquito que o governo nos diz," disse a Sra. Andrews. "Não podemos acreditar no que eles dizem sobre a nossa protecção e a nossa saúde. Metade do que dizem é mentira. E a outra metade são sonhos não realizados. Se nem sequer conseguem controlou o incinerador Rollins, como poderão controlou todos esses novos incineradores que dizem quem construir? Não serão capazes!"

O Mayor Iacobucci e outros oradores da conferencia disseram que a solução é evitar a produção dos produtos que são geradores de todos estes desperdicios tóxicos.

Na secção que discutiu os efeitos toxicos na nossa saúde tinhamos o Dr. Ted Flynn, da Universidade de Medicina de N.J., que disse que os quimicos que lateram as celulas genéticas - DNA - não deviam entrar nos nossos corpos da maneira nenhuma. "É apenas uma questão de bom senso, se nós sabemos que estes quimicos causam cancro e danificam o DNA não podemos correr o risco de expor pessoas a esses quimicos." O Dr. Flynn disse ainda que vários estudos tem sido feitos que mostram que as pessoas que vivem em àreas mais poluidas tem maior indice de cancro e defeitos de nascimento, abortos naturais, e que as crianças que nascem sofrem pela exposição das mães a esses quimicos. O Dr. Flynn falou ainda sobre os efeitos do chumbo no ambiente e como a mais pequena quantidade deste metal pode causar problemas no sistema nervoso bem como afectar o processo de aprendizagem das crianças.

"Nós continuaremos a trabalhar juntos para fazer com que os funcionários do estado se conscientizarem que não deixaremos que as companhias de químicos nos prejudiquem nem as nossas familias ou casas," disse Madelyn Hoffman de GREO. "Juntar-nos-emos novamente e planearemos projectos para que as nossas vozes sejam ouvidas bem alto e claramente."

Quem Beneficia Com Os Bilhões Para Os Militares?

Todos os anos, o governo federal gasta bilhões de dollares proveniente de nossas taxas com empenho militares. A maior parte deste dinheiro vai para aproximadamente 100 companhias com contratos militares. Estas corporações receberam $105 bilhões em novos contratos em 1985. Vinte oito destas companhias receberam mais de 1 bilhão cada uma. De cada dollar pago para as taxas, 62 centavos vão para os militares. A proporção do nosso produto nacional bruto que é gasto com os militares é duas vezes maior do que o da alemanha e sete vezes maior que o japão. Este dinheiro seria melhor utilizado com programas de saúde, melhor pensão para os velhos, poderia criar mais trabalhos, e um sistema mais evoluido de educação para nossas crianças.

Uma das razões deste dinheiro ser utilizado para fins militares é por que cada ano um elevado número de oficiais das forças armadas deixam o serviço ativo afirm de ir trabalhar para firmas ligadas aos armamentos. Estes oficiais tem como responsabilidades de arranjar grandes contratos com o governo para as firmas em que trabalham. Eles influenciam o governo a gastar o maximo em armas, gernado com isso, grandes lucros para suas companhias. Durante os últimos 6 anos estes gastos duplicaram.

Em 1961, o Presidente Eisenhower tentou conscientizar o povo americano sobre o "complexo industrial militar". Esta foi a frase usada por ele afim de classificar os oficiais militares que estavam trabalhando para companhias privadas, com a finalidade de conseguirem contratos junto ao govierno e, automaticamente aumentar os gastos com a defesa. Ele ainda disse que eles tornariam cada dia mais poderosos.

Hoje, estas companhias conseguem estes contratos bilhionários sem qualquer concorrência em 96% das vezes. Eles conseguem maiores lucros com a defesa. (Em 1984, o indice de lucro das 10 maiores companhias com contratos militares, foram 2 vezes maiores que outras companhias não relacionadas com o militarismo). Quase nunca pagam taxas. De 1981-84, o maior contrato defensivo de nação, teve lucros de 27 bilhões porem teve uma média de somente 6.3% de taxas - menos que a média de um trabalhador.

Elas tambem pagam altos salarios para seus executivos. A maioria pagam aos presidentes mais de 1 milhão por ano. Uma delas, pagou quase 4 milhões.

Ao mesmo tempo que estão fazendo tanto dinheiro, muitas destas companhias estão roubando cada vez mais. 45 dos 100 contratores do governo, estão sob investigação por atividades criminosas. O governo tem pago centenas de dollares por ferramentas que na realidade nas custam mais do que alguns dollars.

Aquelles Que Tem Conhecimento Dizem Não Ao Incinerador

Um seminário especial composto de 3 especialistas de âmbito nacional na área de reciclagem se reuninu na St. Benedict's Church no dia 7 de Outubro.

Os 3 membros da comissão concordaram que incineradores de lixo não devem ser construidos e que reciclagem é um modo realista e economico de nós dispormos do nosso lixo.

Mark Lohbouer, um dos membros presentes, é conselheiro da cidade de Pennsauken, N.J., e iniciou um progroma de reciclagem nessa cidade. O Sr. Lohbouer afirmou que aqueles que querem construir o incinerador de lixo em Pennsauken **não** querem reciclagem, porque o incinerador de lixo teria então menos lixo para queimar. Oficiais do governo local que querem construir o incinerador do lixo fizeram previsões que o programa de reciclagem de Sr. Lohbouer nunca se concretizaria, que a população não participaria e que o projeto inteiro falharia. Mas disse o Sr. Lohbouer que na segunda semana a população já estava participando entusiasticamente. As pessoas colocaram latas e garrafas em um latão especial que é colocado na calçada. O latão é coletado pelos cominhões da cidade e os materiais são levados para o centro de reciclagem, onde são separados e eventualmente revendidos.

"Na nossa cidade nós temos uma lei que torna obrigatória a reciclagem de latas e garrafas, mas nunca tivemos que impor essa lei, porque toods estão reciclando," disse o Sr. Lohbouer. "Nós vamos continuar a aumentar o volume de reciclagem. Quanto mais reciclamos menos razão temos para construir-mos um incinerador."

Pennsauken tem 35-40,000 pessoas e está reciclando 15% do seu lixo - depois de apenas 6 meses.

"Nós estamos ouvindo a grande mentira de que existe um limite em relação ao que pode ser reciclado," disse o Sr. Lohbouer.



Recilcagem é mais barata e mais seguro do que incineradores. Foi o que disseram três peritos no assunto numa conferência da repsonsabilidade do ICATW. Na foto - da esquina para a direita - June Kruszewski, Mark Lohbouer, councilman da cidade Pennsauken, onde começou um programa de reciclagem, e Mae Cox.

Os membros da comissão esclareceram que muitas das organizações de reciclagem existentes dizem que 'somente 25% do nosso lixo pode ser reciclado porque eles recebem fundos de grandes companhias químicas.

Steve Romalewski do Grupo de Interesse Publico de Nova York, disse: "Incineração não é a solução. Produz cinzas que chegam a ser 40% do lixo. Não elimina os ateros de lixo. As cinzas são cobertas de dioxin e outros materiais perigosíssimos. Incineração não vai resolver o problema; vai torna-lo mais grave."

O Sr. Romalewski disse que NYPIRG está solicitando seriamente que programas de reciclagem sejam iniciados e que incineradores não sejam construidos por 5 anos.

Restos de comida, folhas, grama e outros materiais organicos podem ser transformados em adubo e depois usado, para fertilizar o solo.

Neil Seldman, do Instituto de Autonomia Local de Washington D.C. reiterou que reciclagem custará metade do que custará o incinerador, sem causar problemas à saúde. Disse tambem que reciclagem empregaria muito mais pessoas do que o incinerador. Em um estudo que o Sr. Seldman fez na Philadelphia, ele estimou que 300 empregos seriam criados coma reciclagem comparados a 50 ou menos com o incinerador.

Incinerador Model Torna-se Um Monstro

Quando entidades do Condado do Essex procuravam convencer os residentes do Ironbound de que incineradores são extraordinários, apontavam para um queimador de lixos localizado no condado de Westchester como exemplo de eficácia. Chegaram até a levar até lá algumas oficiais de Newark para lhes mostrar a grandiosidade da máquina. Mas nenhum destes oficiais deseja falar sobre os problemas que esse incinerador tem agora.

No dia 19 de Maio, um supervisora na central de queima de lixos do Westchester County, encontrou a morte. George Voorhees, de 40 anos de idade, estava a proceder à limpeza do interior do incinerador, quando foi atingido na cabeça por um pedaço da crosta que se acumula no interior. Além disso, sofreu graves queimaduras.

Em Março, oito semanas após a morte do Sr. Voorhees, registou-se um incêndio no incinerador que orden sem control durante algum tempo. Óleo ali armazenado pegou fogo e encheu o edificio de denso fumo, isto de acordo com o Lt. Eugene Tumolo do Departamento da Policia de Peekskill. O fogo foi combatido por 7 carros de bombeiros e 80 homens. Em virtude do fogo, e até que o incinerador fosse reparado, o lixo das várias localidades de Westchester foi depositado numa lixeira.

"O acidente e o incêndio vieram demonstrar que não se sabe operar estas plantas com a devida segurança," afirmou Steve Romalewski do Grupo New York Public Research (NYPIRG).

Incinerador Aumenta Impostos

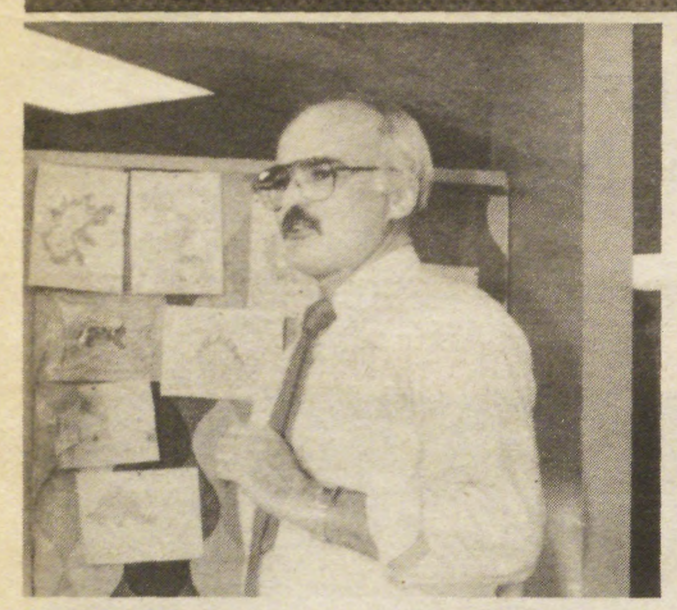
Além dos problemas de funcionamento, os residentes do Westchester County virão os seus "impostos de lixo" aumentar em virtude do incinerador. O contracto entre a companhia Signal Resco, manufactores e operadores, e o condado de Westchester, indica que o condado terá de pagar mais dinheiro se o incinerador perde dinheiro. Os residentes de Westchester terão de pagar mais 5 ou 6 milhões de dólares.

Três funcionários do Westchester County, que negociaram o contrato com a companhia Signal Resco, trabalham agora para esta companhia. Esse contrato está actualmente a ser renegociado.

O incinerador do Westchester County não é o único com problemas. Um jornal de Staten island fez recemente uma pesquisa em 14 incineradores nos Estados Unidos e constatou que quase todos têm problemas. Quase todos sofrem de avarias mecânicas desde que foram inaugurados. Muitos deles têm estado avariados durante dias ou até maiores periodos de tempo. Quando um incinerador avaria, o lixo amontoa-se junto do local ou é levado para uma lixeira.

"Os problemas experimentados em Westchester County e noutras localidades com incineradores são algumas das questões que levantámos às nossas entidades eleitas," disse Arnold Cohen, do Comité do Ironbound Contra Produtos Tóxicos. "Se o incinerador está a funcionar temos os problemas de incêndio ou acidentes, e o dióxino contaminando o ar. Se não está a funcionar, temos o nauseabundo cheiro do lixo, e custa-mos mais dinheiro para manter o equipamento."

"Esta não é a solução para o problema do lixo. O lixo deverá ser reciclado. Alguns dos maiores produtos tóxicos não devem ser produzidos. Estas são algumas das alternativas que fazem sentido e oferecem segurança."



Tom Fox Falou sobre os milhares de dollars que são gastos em serviços militares, e que as grandes corporações pagam pouco ou nada de taxas.

Esbanjando Dinheiro Dos Impostos

"Tanto dinheiro tem sido dado para o que chamam 'Defensa Nacional' que eles nem sabe o que hão-de fazer com ele. É um desperdiçar de dinheiro, tão preciso nos locais onde vivemos para escolas, habitação e empregos."

O orador era Tom Fox, do Centro de Treino e Informação de Chicago. O Sr. Fox participou numa sessão de trabalho realizada no passado dia 9 de Outubro e organizada pelo **Ironbound Peace Education Project.**

O senhor Fox tem gasto muito tempo a estudar o orçamento federal e a maneira como o dinheiro dos nossos impostos é desperdicado. "A ideia de défic é uma pura mentira," disse Sr. Fox. "Os políticos em Washington estão a deixar as grandes corporações e o Pentágono fazer o que muito bem lhes apetece. As grandes corporações beneficiam de concessões especiais e não pagam impostos. Em alguns casos o governo até lhes concede subsídios. As mesmo tempo, o Pentágono esbanja biliões de dólares fraudulentemente. Se pegássemos em todo o dinheiro e o juntássemos não haveria défic."

"Em vez de ir buscar dinheiro aos grandes, o governo vem buscá-lo aos pequenos e tira de nós todos os programas que necessitamos para sobreviver. A população tem de não aceitar semelhantes mentiras e exigir que as corporações paguem o que devem, e que o Pentágono reduza o seu orçamento."

Sr. Fox referiu alguns exemplos de despesas para 'Defesa Nacional' feitas perante uma companhia ligada ao Pentágono. Através de impostos, os contribuintes pagaram 43 mil dólares para realização duma conferência da companhia numa estância balnear, 9 mil e cem dólares para compra de bonés com emblemas, 35 mil dólares para um jantar-dançante e 16 mil dólares para presentes.

Professores, elementos da comunidade, organizações, representantes de igrejas e residentes assistiram a esta sessão especial de trabalho.



A Greenpeace Luta Por Um Mundo Seguro

"A tua luta para parar o incinerador de lixo é parte da mesma luta em que a *Greenpeace* está envolvida mundialmente. Tentando um mundo seguro e de paz. Espero que a tua luta seja bem sucedida. Acreditamos em acção. Se alguem faz algo que nos ameaça então experimentamos fazer qualquer coisa para que parem."

Ken Alboum da *Greenpeace* falou acerca do trabalho em que esta organização está envolvida numa reunião que tevé lugar na Igreja de Nossa Senhora de Fatima a 21 de Setembro. A reunião foi organizada pelo **Comité do Ironbound Contra Productos Tóxicos.** A *Greenpeace* é uma organização internacional a favor do meio ambiente que conta com mais de 1 milhão e meio de membros em países espalhados pelo mundo inteiro.

O povo geralmente pensa que a *Greenpeace* está sómente envolvida na proteção às baleias e focas que estão em vias de extinção devido à caça não controlada. A *Greenpeace* tem sido alvo de muita publicidade pelas suas actividades na protecção a estes animais. Esta organização sucedeu em fazer parar as cacadas e torna-las ilegais. Por isso estes animais estão livres de perigo. Mas a *Greenpeace* está tambem envolvida moutros assuntos mais proximos de casa para muita gente.

A *Greenpeace* está a lutar contra o lixo tóxico no meio das comunidades em todo o mundo. Os membros da *Greenpeace* acreditam que em vez de se discutir onde se deve armaszenar o lixo tóxico é mais importante que este não se produza. A *Greenpeace* tem tomado atitudes dramáticas contra algumas das maiores companhias que continuam a lançar os seus químicos perigosos nos lagos rios e no mar. Recentemente bloquearam as condutas da Ciba-Geigy no sul de New Jersey tentando parar o despejo dos seus químicos no mar. Um membro da *Greenpeace* subiu à chaminé mais alta dos E.U., a qual estava a lançar poluição na atmosfera. Quando chegou lá acima pendurou um cartaz com uma mensagem contra a companhia e atirou-se para baixo em paraquedas. Muitas vezes o que os membros da *Greenpeace* fazem é despertar a atenção da imprensa e do público em relação a um problema o que ajuda a encontrar uma solução.

A *Greenpeace* interessou-se por milhares de barris de lixo radioactivo os quais estavam a ser lançados ao mar. Os residuos radioactivos são letais. Manteem-se radioactivos por milhares de anos. Quando os barris se desintegram, os quimicos radioactivos espalham-se pelo mar. São absorvidos pelo peixe, que nós comemos aumentando o nivel de radioactividade no nosso corpo. A *Greenpeace* usou barcos pequenos para parar navios de lançarem ao mar os barris. Por esta razão, o tratado de despejo de Londres tornou ilegal o lançamento de materiais radioactivos no mar.

Outra fonte de radioactividade no mundo são as bombas nucleares. 1600 bombas nucleares foram detonadas em testes por diversos países no mundo. 800 testes foram conduzidos pelos E.U. A *Greenpeace* parou testes em terra neste país e no mar noutras partes do mundo.

O navio ***Rainbow Warrier*** da *Greenpeace* quando estava quasi a parar um teste nuclear dos franceses foi destruido numa doca na Nova Zelandia. Agentes Franceses implantaram uma serie de bombas no navio. O navio ***Rainbow Warrior*** tinha acabado de ajudar centenas de famílias a abandonarem as ilhas Marshall. As ilhas Marshall estavam contaminadas devido a testes nucleares feitos ali por um periodo de muitos anos. O povo tem um indece elevado de defeitos ao nascer leucemia, e uma expectativa de vida extremamente corta devido à radioactividade das explosões nucleares. Por muitos anos pediram ajuda para mudarem para outras ilhas que não estão contaminadas. O navio ***Rainbow Warrior*** ajudou-os a mudarem e foi recentemente nomeado para o Prémio Novel pelos seus esforços.

Quando o navio explodiu um fotografo Português, Fernando Pereira, foi morto. Na conferencia do dia 21, o Sr. Padre Joseph Bejgrowicz da Igreja de St. Benedict disse, "Fernando Pereira era uma pessoa interessada pela qualidade de vida neste planeta. A melhor maneira de nos lembrarmos dele é acreditarmos no que ele acreditava e mostrarmos o nosso interesse atravez das nossas actividades. Temos que dar conhecimento ao publico de que tomamos uma posição em coisas tais como a lixo tóxico incineradores, e que não nos deixamos levar. Temos que exigir satisfações dos nossos representantes politicos. Quando vemos algo de errado acontecer não podemos fechar os olhos. Temos que nos manifestar e pedir aos outros que se unam a nós. Fernando Pereira arriscou a vida. Temos qeu arriscar o nosso tempo e o nosso esforço."

No fim do programa o Sr. Aloum cantou uma canção por ele composta acerca do navio ***Rainbow Warrior***. O coro da canção dizia, "Não podes afundar um rainbow!" O Sr. Alboum disse que embora um momem tenha morrido nos esforços feitos em favor da *Greenpeace*, tal susto não parou ninguem mas pelo contrario tornou as pessoas mais determinadas na luta por um mundo com segurança e paz.



Aquellos Que Saben Decir No Al Incinerador

Una conferencia especial con 3 expertos nacionales en reprocesamiento fue sostenida en la iglesia St. Benedict el 7 de Octubre.

Los 3 miembros del panel acordaron que el incinerador de basura no debería ser construído y que el reprocesamiento era un camino realístico y económico para conseguir quitarse de encima la basura.

Mark Lohbouer, uno de los que habló, es un consejero de la ciudad de Pennsauken, N.J., quien empezó un programa de reprocesamiento allí. Sr. Lohbouer dijo que quellos que quieren construir el quemador de basura no quieren el reprocesamiento porque el incinerador de basura tendría entonces menos de la misma para quemar. Algunos oficiales locales, quienes quieren construir el incinerador de basura predijeron que el programa de reprocesamiento de Sr. Lohbouer nunca trabajaría, que la gente no participaría y que todo fracasaría.

Pero Sr. Lohbouer dijo que dentro de la segunda semana, la gente estaba participando entusiastamente. La gente arroja sus latas y botellas en una lata especial la cual es recogida por los camiones de la ciudad y el material es separado y eventualmente revendido.

"En nuestra ciudad tenemos una ley haciendo mandatorio el reprocesamiento de esas latas y botellas, pero nosotros nunca hemos tenido que imponer la ley, porque todos están haciendo el reprocesamiento," dijo Sr. Lohbouer.

"Nosotros vamos a continuar aumentando la cantidad de reprocesamiento. Cuanto mans reprocesamiento hagamos, menos razón habrá para que un incinerador sea construído."

Pennsauken tiene 35-40,000 habitantes y ellos están usando reprocesamiento en un 15% de su basura en solamente 6 meses!

"La gran mentira que nosotros hemos estado diciendo es que hay cierta clase de límite en referencia a que puede ser reprocesado," dijo Sr. Lohbouer.

Los panelistas dijeron que muchas organizaciones de reprocesamiento existentes dicen cosas como "solamente el 25% de nuestra basura puede ser reprocesada" porque ellos están recibiendo concesiones de grandes compañías químicas.



Procesar es mas barato y no tiene peligro como la quema de basuras. Esto es lo que 3 expertos nacionales dijeron en la reunión que patrocino el Comite de Ironbound en Contra de Desperdicios Tóxicos. En la fotografia - de izquierda a derecha - June Kruszewski, Mark Lohbouer, consejal en la ciudad de Pennsauken quien empezó el programa de procesar, y Mae Cox.

Steve Romalewski, de New York Public Interest Group (NYPIRG) dijo: "Incineración no es solución. Produce cenizas que pueden ser tanto como el 40% de la basura. Estas no finalizan el llenado de tierras. Las cenizas están cubiertas con dioxin y otros materiales dañinos. La incineración no resolverá el problema sino que lo hará peor."

Sr. Romalewski dijo NYPIRG estaba incitando a que el verdadero programa de reprocesamiento sea desarrollado y que ningún incinerador sea construído por 5 años.

Restos de comida, hojas, pasto y otros materiales orgánicos pueden ser abono y luego usados para enriquecer la tierra.

Neil Seldman, del Institute For Local Self Reliance en Washington D.C., afirmó que el reprocesamiento costará la mitad de lo que costaría un incinerador, sin causar problemas a nuestra salud. El dijo que el reprocesamiento emplearía muchas personas, más que un incinerador. En un estudio que Sr. Seldman hizo para Philadelphia proyectó que 300 empleos serían creados por el reprocesamiento comparado a 50 o menos que crearía el incinerador.

"Nuestros oficiales electos nos dicen que ho hay alternativa para el incinerador de basura. Nosotros podemos ver que eso no es verdad," dijo Arnold Cohen, de Comité de Ironbound en Contra de Desperdicios Tóxicos.

¿Quien Se Beneficia De Los Billones Del Militar?

Cada año, el gobierno federal está gastando billones de dolares de nuestro dinero de impuestos en el servicio militar. Mucho de éste dinero va directo a casi 100 grandes corporaciones las cuales tienen contrato con el servicio militar. Estas corporaciones cogieron $105 billones de nuevos contratos en el 1985. 28 de las compañías cogieron mas de un billón de dolares cada una. De cada dolar de impuesto federal, 62 centavos van para el militar. La proporción de nuestro producto nacional bruto que es gastado en lo militar es dos veces tan alto como Alemania y siete eces tan alto como Japón. Este dinero podría haber sido gastado para mejorar el cuidado de salud, darle mejores pensiones para los envejecientes, crear trabajos o crear mejor sistema educacional para nuestros niños.

Una de las razones que el dinero fué gastado en el militar es por el gran número de oficiales militares quienes dejan los servicios armados cada año para cojer trabajos en la industria de la defensa. Estas mismas personas ayudan a las compañías con quienes trabajan ahora a conseguir constratos mas grandes. Cada año, ellos tratan de que el gobierno gaste mas en lo militar, asi ellos pueden coger mas para sus compañias. Durante los pasados 6 años han cogido el doble de los gastos militares.

En 1961, el Presidente Eisenhower trató de advertir el pueblo americano sobre el "complejo industrial militar." Esta fué la frase que el usó para describir los oficiales de las fuerzas armadas y las corporaciones trabajando juntos para aumentar el dinero gastado en contratos de defensa. El además advirtió que ellos vendrian a ser mas y mas poderosos.

Hoy, estas corporaciones cojen sus billones de dolares de los contratos sin ninguna competencia 96% del tiempo. Ellos hacen ganacias mas altas en sus contratos de defensa. (En 1984, el tipo promedio e de los beneficios de las 10 contratistas de la defensa mas grandes fué dos veces tan alto como el promedio de las compañias no militares). Ellos raramente pagan cualquier impuesto. Desde 1981-84 los contratistas defensores de la nación tuvieron beneficios de $27 billones pero pagaron un promedio de impuesto de solo 6.3% - menos que el promedio de impuesto pagado por la gente trabajadora.

Estas corporaciones han pagado además sus enormes salarios de las empresas. Mayoramente han pagado los presidentes de las corporaciones mas de $1 millón en 1985. Uno de ellos, pagó caso $4 millones.

Al mismo tiempo que ellos estan haciendo tanto dinero, muchas de estas corporaciones estan robando aun mans. 45 de las contratistas militares mas altos estan bajo investigación por actividades criminales. El gobierno ha pagado cientos de dolares por simples herramientas y partes que normalmente cuestan par de dolares.

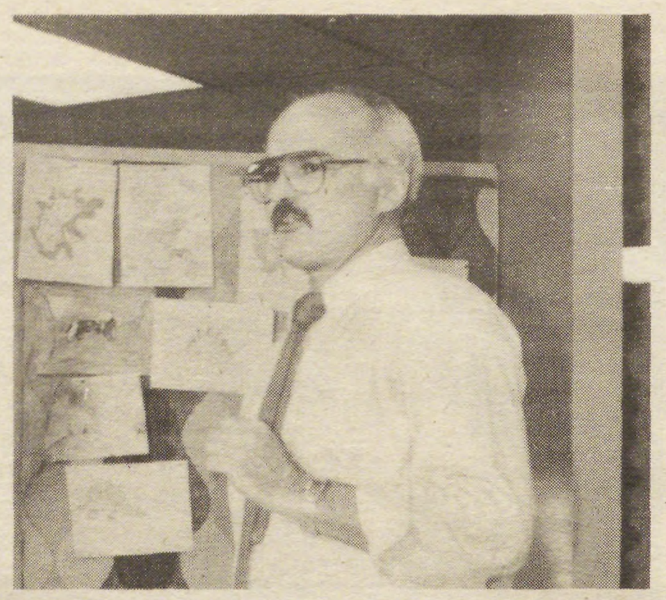
Tirando Dinero de los Taxes

"Tanto dinero que se le ha dado a la llama 'Defensa Nacional' que ellos no saben que hacer con el. Es una perdida de dinero que nosotros tan desesperadamente necesitamos en nuestros vecindarios, como escuelas, viivendas y empleos."

El protavoz fue Tom Fox, del Centro Nacional de Información y Entrenamiento en Chicago. Sr. Fox dió un taller especial en Octubre 9 patrocinado por ***El Proyecto de Educación de Paz de Ironbound***.

Sr. Fox ha empleado mucho de su tiempo estudiando la manera que se desperdicia nuestro dinero de los taxes y el presupuesto federal.

"Toda la idea de un deficis es una mentira," dijo el Sr. Fox. "Los politicos en Washington han escogido la manera de que las grandes corporaciones y el Pentagón se salgan con la suya y cometan crimenes. Las grandes corporaciones se le está dando chances de manera que no paguen taxes. En algunos casos el gobierno muchas veces le hace hasta una rebaja! Al mismo tiempo el Pentagón esta gastando billones de dolares através del fraude. Si tu coges todo el dinero y lo juntas todo, no habria necesidad de deficis."



Tom Fox habló acerca de los millones de dolares malgastados por el ejercito y tambien cuando las grandes corporaciones pagan muy pequeños impuestos o no pagan.

"En vez de obtener dinero de esta mina, el gobierno está tratande de obtenerlo de nuestros programas que tanto necesitamos para poder sobrevivir y mantener nuestros vecindarios vivibles. Ya la gente se ha negado a seguir con las mentiras y demandan que las corporaciones su parte completa, y que el presupuesto del Pentagón sea cortado."

Sr. Fox compartió algunos ejemplos de gastos conectados con la compañia llamada 'defensa nacional' y gastos de del Pentagón. Los que pagan impuestos pagaron $43,000 para que miembros de esta compañia se reunieran en un lujoso lugar de veraneo, $9100 para sombreros que se regalaron com emblemas, $35,558 para una comida baile, y $16,178 para regalos.

Maestros, miembros de la comunidad, organizaciones y iglesias y residentes del vecindario asistieron a este taller tan especial.

¿Porque Llora Nuestra Estatua de la Libertad?

por Steve Moctezuma

Mientras que nuestra nación se preparaba para celebrar la Parada del 4 de Julio y las festividades del fin de semana de la Estatua de la Libertad, nuestra Estatua lloraba por las politicas de nuestro gobierno en Centro América.

Recentemente, muchos residentes de nueva Jersey hicieron una demostración enfrente del edificio federal de Newark protestando porque ocho personas fueron convictas por estar envueltas en el movimiento para santuario (refugio) en Tuscon, Arizona y oponiendose al mismo tiempo al voto de la casa de representantes que pasaron una enmienda en la cual le dan $100 millones de dólares en ayuda militar a los contras Nicaraguenses patrocinados por la CIA.

En el caso Tuscon, el gobierno de los E.U. dijo que la gente de la iglesia ayudaron a "refugiados económicos" Salvadoreños y Guatamaltecos que no tienen derecho a asilo politico en los E.U. La gente de la iglesia ayudaron a estos refugiados a encontrar un lugar seguro donde estar. Abogados de los trabajadores del santuario estan apelando las injustas convicciones. De acuerdo a David Lerner, el gobierno rompió la ley formando una conexión con una linea para interceptar mensajes y obtener informes con gente de ellos infiltrados en las iglesias para espiar. Más aún, el Juez se negó a permitir la defensa consejera de montar una defensa basada en leyes internacionales y domésticas así como la de las Naciones Unidas que se encarga de los derechos humanos internacionales y de la Acta de Refugiados de los E. U. de 1980 que provee asilo político a aquellos refugiados que huyen de tortura y de persecución politica.

El Reverendo David Burgess, director del Ministerio Ecuménico Metropolitano, habló en la demostración que las tácticas intimidativas del gobierno de ls E.U. contra los trabajadores del santuario de la iglesia, es similar a la forma en que el gobierno Alemán Nazi castigaba a los Alemanes, como al Pastor Martin Niemoller, quién tratara de proteger a los Judios y a otras personas perseguidas para tortura y muerte en los campos de concentración.

Los demostrantes también hicieron una vigilancia para enviar un mensaje claro al Congreso y al Presidente Reagan de que la mayoriáa de los ciudadaños Estadounidenses se oponen a una guerra inmoral e ilegal como la de Vietnam en Centro América. Muchos de los demostrantes distribuyeron pamfletos y cargaban banderas y letreros donde especificaban su oposición a la intervención militar Estadounidense en Centro América. Algunos de los letreros decian "Alto a la guerra Estadounidense en Centro América", "Alimenten a la gente y no al Pentagon", y "La gente unida jamas será vencida."

Barbara Apfelbaum, coordinadora de NJ Central American Network, dijo: "Nos sentimos ultrajados por el voto Congresional que le dara $100 (cien millónes de dólares) a los contra terroristas Nicaraguenses. Creémos que ésta política extranjera es criminal."

Mientras que muchos demostrantes estaban en vigilia afuera, mucha gente participó en un acto planeado de desobediencia civil manteniendose sentados dentro del pasillo principal del edificio federal de los E.U. El estatuto distribuido por los que tomaron parte de mantenerse sentados decía: "Como parte de la protesta de hoy en contra de la guerra en Nicaragua de la administración de Reagan, algunos de nosotros haran una forma de desobediencia civil de quedarnos dentro del edificio federal despues de la hora de cerrar. Hemos intentado trabajar por medio de los canales convencionales de nuestro sistema político. Hemos escrito cartas a nuestros representantes electos y tambien los hemos visitado en persona; hemos hecho llamadas telefónicas y enviado telegramas; hemos hecho peticiones, hemos marchado, hemos ayunado; hemos organizado enseñanzas sobre el problema; demostraciones y vigilias. Y a pesar de nuestros esfuerzos, y apesar del hecho de que el publico Estadounidense se opone a la ayuda para los contras dos a uno, la administración de Reagan todavía insiste en seguir pesando su guerra ilegal en Centro América. Encarados con esta falla de nuestras instituciones políticas, creémos que nosotros estamos justificados en cometer una menor infracción de la ley al oponernos al crimen que es incomparablemente grande en ambos, en forma legal y en términos humanos."

Los protestantes pacíficos fueron arrestados por trespasar, pero fueron dejados en libertad inmediatamente y ordenados a comparecer en corte al próximo día. El Juez descartó los cargos en contra de los demostrantes.

Joe Fortunado, abogado de los demostrantes dijo, "Los E.U. esta violando la ley al pesar una guerra ilegal en contra de Nicaragua sin una declaración de guerra constitucional.

Programas Gratis

Programas gratis estan disponibles en New Jersey para niños desde su nacimiento hasta cinco (5) años de edad quienes no se estan desarrollando de manera normal. El niño puede nacer o desarrollarsele mas tarde un problema en su movimiento, hablar o aprendizage.

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Residentes de N.J. Dicen Paren La Polución

Cerca de 100 personas de todo el estado de New Jersey se ajuntaron para una conferencia el Sabado, Sept. 27 en Swedesboro, N.J., auspiciado por la Organización Grass Roots Environmental (GREO).

En talleres y conversaciones durante todo el dia, los residentes que estan luchando para limpiar desperdicios tóxicos, o prevenir de qué entren en sus comunidades, intercarembiaron informaciones y experiencias. Quedaron de acuerdo en continuar trabajando juntos para prevenir los planes peligrosos como incineradores de basura, y empujar por soluciones reales como reciclamiento de basura.

En un taller en incineradores el Alcalde Frank Iacobucci habló sobre el incinerador Rollins en Logan Township. El Alcalde Iacobucci dijo que los inspectores que sunioeron a monitar la planta no son cualificados, ue los materiales que llegan para ser incinerados no son examinados para asegurarse de que lo qué está en la lista es lo que está en los barriles, que no hay examenes de lo que sale de las quimicos, y que los instrumentos de monitar en Rollins no sirven. "Siempre pensamos que el govierno nos iria a ayudar y protyernos, pero no es verdad," dijo el Alcalde Iacobucci.

Susan Andrews, la cabesilla de los ciudadaños en la lucha para la limpieza de la polución de Rollins, mostró fotografias de la explosión que hubo allí en Rollins que mató a 7 personas. "Ustedes no puedese creer lo que los oficiales del govierno les eta diciendo. Ustedes no pueden creer lo que les dice sobre lo much que les importa su salud o lo que les dice de la seguridad de el incinerador. La mitad de lo que les dice son mentiras y la otra mitad ès lo que ellos quieren que ustedes crean. Si ellos no pueden ni tan siquiera monitar el incinerador Rollins ahora, como monitarían este nuevo incinerador que están proponiendo para todo los lados del estado? No lo harán."



Esta fotografia muestra a Susan Andrews - segunda de la izquierda - y el mayor Frank Iacobucci de Logan Township, cuando compartieron sus historias de horror acerca de Rollins Incinerator con otros que atendieron a la conferencia de GREO.

El Alcalde Iacobucci y otros oradores en la conferencia dijeron que la solución es para la producción de productos que genéran desperdicios peligrosos que son igual peligrosos para la gente.

En el taller acerca los efectos de quimicos tóxicos para la salud, el doctor Ted Flynn de N.J. University of Medicine and Dentistry, dijo que las quimicos los cuales dañan las celulas geneticas (llamadas DNA) en nuestros cuerpos no deberían dejarse entrar adentro del cuerpo de la gente. "Es de sentido común que si sabemos que estas quimicas cuasan cancer y dañan el DNA, no cojemos los chanses exponiendo a la gente a ellas." Dr. Flynn dijo también que estudios han sido hecho que muestran que gente que viven en areas con alto grado de polución, tienen alto nivel de cancer, defecto de nacimiento y abortos, pero que los niñoas que estan naciendo estan siendo dañados por que sus madres han sido expuestas a estas quimicos tóxicos. Dr. Flynn habló sobre el plomo en el ambiente, y como exposición a pequeñas cantidades cuasan daños al sistema nervioso (los nervios) que resulta en disminución en la atención y otras problemas del aprendisaje en los niños.

"Vamos a continuar trabajando juntos para hacer que los oficiales de govierno se den cuenta de que nosotros no vamos a dijar a las compañias de quimicas continuén poniendonos en peligro, nuestros hogares y nuestros hijos," dijo Madelyn Hoffman de GREO. "Nos reuniremos otra vez y planearemos algunos acciones para hacernos oir alto y claro."

Las Cartas

Hagamos Que Los Contaminadores Paguen

Querido Editor:

Los depositos de desperdicios tóxicos ponen en peligro nuestras vidas. Las cortes deben tratar esas personas responsables y ponerlos presos por inento de asesinatos.

Aqui en New Jersey, una de esas compañias está tratando de salirse con la suya como con "intento de asesinato." Signo Trading Co., Chrales Colbert, presidente, y Jack Colbert, vice presidente son los responsables por causar que seis lugares ilegales pra depositar desperdicios toxicos en New Jersey. Ellos tambeín se han visto envueltos en vergonzosas situaciones de desperdicios tóxicos en todo el mundo.

En Abril, los hermanos Colbert fueron convictos por fraude al gobierno federal. Ellos trabajaron en esta vergonzosa situación entre octubre, 1983 y noviembre de 1985. Esto fué después que ilegalmente trajeron sobre 20,000 envaces de desperdicios tóxicos y materiales altamente explosivos a un almacen en medio de una zona residencial de Ironbound (140 de Thomas St.) Mientras eran investigados por un crimen, ellos usaron el tiempo provechoso (para ellos mismos) para cometer otro crimen.

Los Colberts fueron convictos por traer ilegalmente desperdicios tóxicos al almacen del 140 Thomas St. y cada uno fué sentenciado a tres años de prisión y una multa de $100. Pero ahora ellos estan libres bajo finaza y estan planeando a pelar al caso. ¿Cuantos vidas más estos dos hombres van a poner en peligro hasta que los encierren?

En ultimo episodio en esta trajedia ocurrió la semana pasada cuando el juez Newman ordenó a Signo Trading Co. a pagar al estado $3 millones de dolares que se gastan para limpiar el almacen del 140 de Thomas St. y multó a Signo $75,000. Porqué pagar al estado $3 millones? Ellos deben de pagar el triple por los daños de estos vergonzosos actos. Los hermanos Colbert disolvió la compañia que fué encontrada culpable.

El caso de Signo Trading Co. y el caso de los hermanos Colbert es desafortunado pero no comun. El Proyecto Northeast Hazardous Waste estudió peligrosos desperdicios y crimenes relacionados en New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maine y Maryland. La División Criminal de Justicia de New Jersey ayudó a escribir este reporte. Entre las conclusiones estan: alguna compañia de quimicas emplean oficiales de governmental para evitar efectivos forsamientos de leyes. Presiones por los negocios de la comunidad y fallos por los inspectores ambientales para asegurar que no tengan evidencias en contra de ellos para que los arresten. La mayor esperanza para mi de este reporte es que ya han descubierto ofensas de depositos ilegales y lo han descubierto ciudadaños que han dado las quejas.

Los ciudadaños de New Jersey deben de unirse y demandar que las leyes en contra de los desperdicios tóxicos sean mas fuertes y que estos criminales no sean dejado en libertad para que cometan mas crimenes.

Sinceramente,
Arnold Cohen
Comite en Contra de
Desperdicios Tóxicos



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